

## **Minutes – Special Education Strategic Plan Advisory Council**

*Minutes assembled and submitted  
by interim secretary,  
Teresa Avery, Autism Delaware*

Meeting of Wednesday, July 26, 2017, Appoquinimink Board Room, Marion Proffitt Training Center, Odessa, DE

The meeting was called to order by acting co-chair Michele Marinucci at 8:15 AM, the agenda and supporting meeting materials having been previously submitted to all council members.

Those present included acting co-chairs Michele Marinucci and Bill Doolittle, Sybil Brown (GACEC), Dafne Carnright (Autism Delaware), Heidi Morales (Autism Delaware), Kristin Dwyer (DSEA), Deb Stevens (DSEA), Kathie Herel (PIC of DE), Kendall Massatt (DCSN), Mondaria Batchebe (Woodbridge School District), Josette McCullough (Appoquinimink/DASEP), John Marinucci (DSBA), Representative Kim Williams (Delaware State Representative), Vince Winterling (DAP), Mark Campano (DVI), Dava Newnam (DVI), Mary Ann Mieczkowski (DOE), Wendy Strauss (GACEC), acting secretary Teresa Avery (Autism Delaware)

### Welcome

Acting co-chair Michele Marinucci welcomed participants to the meeting and shared remarks to the council, submitted to her previous to the meeting by Secretary of Education Bunting.

The group discussed what can be done on the strategic plan in the current fiscal environment and methods by which to share the council's work with the wider community, such as holding a town hall in each county. The upcoming presentation to the appointed oversight body for the state was discussed with a desire expressed to hold that meeting in September with acting co-chairs Michele Marinucci and Bill Doolittle presenting on behalf of the group.

### Public Comment

Acting co-chair Michele Marinucci asked for public comment. No members of the public were present or provided comment.

### Review and Discussion of Public Input with Decisions Regarding Adjustments to the Strategic Plan

A package containing all submitted public comments regarding the draft strategic plan had been previously submitted to all council members. The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) provided the most detailed comments, including both technical and substantive issues. GACEC comments were reviewed first and all public comments were considered, discussed and a determination was made whether or not to incorporate a related change to the draft strategic plan.

Member Vince Winterling will write an addition to the strategic plan document that will seek to frame the work and set expectations for readers regarding the level of detail of the plan.

Acting co-chairs Bill Doolittle and Michele Marinucci will incorporate changes to the plan and submit the altered document to all members of the council. The updated draft will then be presented to the oversight body at the next scheduled meeting. Doolittle and Marinucci will also work together to respond individually to all those providing public comment.

#### Governance Agreement

A draft governance agreement having been previously created and submitted to the council for review by acting co-chair Bill Doolittle, the council reviewed the document and determined to adopt its contents on a provisional basis while the group begins work.

**MOTION:** John Marinucci moved and Dafne Carnright seconded that **RESOLVED** Bill Doolittle and Michele Marinucci shall serve as co-chairs of the council. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Kendall Massatt moved and Representative Kim Williams seconded that **RESOLVED** Teresa Avery shall serve as interim secretary of the council until a permanent secretary can be found. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Priority Survey Results

The council reviewed the results of a survey of priorities that was previously conducted among council members and discussed how funding affects priority selections. It was determined that the group should choose one priority within each major plan section, as well as a priority for immediate financial attention.

The council discussed the subcommittee structure and discussed committee chair positions. A preliminary list of subcommittee chairs was created and co-chairs Michele Marinucci and Bill Doolittle will work to confirm those positions and report back to the council at the earliest possible date. All subcommittees will meet at least once previous to the next council meeting and will set next steps for their respective groups.

Referring to the iteration of the strategic plan reviewed on July 26, the priority areas chosen included 1.5, 2.3, 3.1, 4.3, 5.5, 6.2 and 7.3. The chosen financial priority is section 5.4.2.

#### Adjournment

The next full council meeting will be held on October 24 from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM.